HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES-MARCH 21, 1848.

Mr. CLINGMAN rose as soon as the Journal had been read to make a privileged motion. He moved to reconsider the vote of yesterday by which the House had instructed the Committee on Printing to inquire into the expediency of printrespondence of Gen. Scott with the Department of War which accompanied it.

hich accompanied it.

He wished to make a brief explanation of his reasons for such a motion, and to justify his prediction of yesterday, when he expressed his apprehension that this correspondence would not be full. Since that time-he had ascertained what was the character of this correspondence, for if it were not full he did not want any extra copies of it. He had looked over that correspondence briefly since it had been placed in the hands of the printer, and he was sorry to say that his worst fears were realized. He found that it was not a tuli statement of the correspondence. He found not only that some important letters were omitted altogether, but that of some letters extracts were given from the middle; of others, they were furnished with the end, and in some cases they had the beginning and the end, but no middle. He had no doubt that those gentlemen who furnished this correspondence ex-ercised the discretion given to them very honestly under the resolution of this House which called for it. Perhaps the resolution justified them in keeping back the documen tire, for no doubt those gentlemen honestly thought that by sustaining the persons now in power, they were doing that which was important to the welfare of this country. Any thing which had the tendency to lower the present Adminis tration in the public estimation, or to overthrow it, they doubt-less honestly thought was detrimental to the public interest. That he would not pretend to dispute.. But he wished to call the attention of the House to this correspondence, and to show that it was too imperfect to be sent to the country. There was nothing in this whole correspondence that deemed injurious to Gen. Scott: on the contrary, he had no doubt it would elevate Gen. Scott, and place him on that favorable ground on which he ought to stand, and on which he

would stand when the whole facts were known.

But, before he remarked on this point of the subject, and proceeded to call the attention of the House to one or two important documents, he wished to say that he I ad been brought to the conclusion at which he had arrived respecting the management of this war from a perusal of these documents-his sion was, that the war had been negligently managed by the Administration, and that all the ment of it was due to our generals.

Mr. HOUSTON, of Alabama, rose to a question of order.

He desired to know whether the Speaker considered it in order to indulge in a course of irrelevant debate on a motion to reconsider; and he supposed the gentleman from North Carolina would admit that his course of remark was irrelevant. Mr. CLINGMAN said he was speaking on the matters embraced in this correspondence and the despatches which had passed between the Department and our Generals; and this he supposed was in order.

Mr. HOUSTON, of Alabama, said the gentleman was discussing the manner in which the President and the Secretary of War had managed the war with Mexico. If, however, the whole question was to be thrown open-if both sides were to be heard-if the Speaker deemed it in order, on a motion to reconsider a vote ordering the printing of a certain number of copies of a certain document, to go into a general debate, let

The SPEAKER replied that these motions to print and to reconsider opened the general question embraced in the docuprinted, but the gentleman from North Carolina must confine himself to that question.

Mr. CLINGMAN said he would confine himself to this correspondence. Well, then, they had here a correspondence, a compliance with a call of this House, which purported to give the whole of General Scott's despatches as well as the correspondence of General Taylor. He was not about to discuss the origin of this war—the House had decided that it was unconstitutionally and unnecessarily begun—but he intended to advert to facts shown by this correspondence, which, to his mind, made it appear that this Administration had been guilty of gross negligence in not furnishing our officers with what it had undertaken to furnish; and he intended to comment on the manner in which General Taylor had been left in Mexico. He knew not that the country fully understood this matter, and he should therefore make some observations on the extraordinary course which the Department had pursued.

He would here remark that this correspondence, as furnished by the President, which purported to be the correspondence and despatches of Gen. Scott, did not contain one important document, in which was embraced the whole plan of the campaign which Gen. Scott went to Mexico to execute. That was omitted, and for what reason? He would here say that proper to adopt and to adhere to Gen. Scott's plan, and yet, on looking over Gen. Scott's correspondence recently, he did not find a single suggestion in it that had not been verified by facts. It not only had turned out as he told them that, if volunteers were sent out they would die there-as they did, deprived of tents to shelter them, as well as of other necessaries life-but that no onward movement could be made for want of horses and the means of transportation. It was only the other day that he heard a gentlemen in the other wing of this capitol denouncing Gen. Taylor for advancing on with from six to eight thousand men, when he had twenty thousand men in the valley of the Rio Grande. Now, if the correspondence were all published, it would be seen that the Administration obliged him to undertake that movement, but failed to furnish him with horses or wagons for the transportation of his troops. If Gen. Taylor had been turnished with proper means he would have captured the enemy at Monterey without the heavy loss he sustained, and thus have escape the vote of censure of this House at its last session; and the despatches would show that through that entire Gen. Taylor, was crippled in consequence of the War Department not having furnished him with the means of accomplishing all he desired. But the War Department, seeing that the contest had been so conducted by Gen. Taylor with the inefficient means at his disposal, as, though resulting in a series of brilliant victories, to give no hope of an early peace. thought projer again to consuit Gen. Scott, who was then in this city, and at length to take his counsel as to future operations. Gen. Scott accordingly elaborated a plan of cam-paign, which the Administration has not thought proper to give to the public. In that plan Gen. Scott foresaw all the contingencies which would arise.

He wished to go to Vera Cruz with 14,000 men, and he

expected to capture it in a certain time. He then intended to march forward to Jalapa, and 10,000 additional troops were to be furnished him for that purpose. Gen. Scott preferred regulars for his expedition, which he was compelled to take from Gen. Taylor; but, after that measure had been decided upon, the Administration had ample time to reinforce Gen.

Taylor at the subject was open, under the motion to reconsider, and Taylor at the subject was open, under the motion to reconsider, and Taylor as they promised to do, by raising his command to 16,000 men long before the battle of Buena Vista. It came, then, with a bad grace from the Administration, or its organs and friends, to censure Gen. Scott and Gen. Taylor, when they had failed to do that which they had promised to enable those

Generals to carry on their operations.

But, after Gen. Scott had gone to Vera Cruz, and succeeded in espturing that city, what was the next step of this Ad-It was an attempt to supersede him by a Lieutenant General. The Administration was willing to let Gen. Scott go forward against Vera Cruz; and many regarded it as a desperate undertaking, many deemed it impracticable to capture Vera Cruz. The gentleman the Administration selected to be the Lieutenant General so regarded it; General Taylor, too, spoke doubtingly of it, and said that the attempt ought not to be made with less than 25,000 men. But the Administration were willing that Gen. Scott should go there, that be might take the responsibility of the excedition in case of a failure, and be superseded by a Lieutenant General if he succeeded. Gen. Scott succeeded at Vera Cruz, and subsequently at Cerro Gordo; and he had the authority of a gentleman of experience in such matters, then in his eye, turning to Col. HASKELL,) for saying that, but for the consummate skill displayed by Gen. Scott in turning the enemy's, position, the valor of our troops would have failed to force the passage. Perhaps the only thing to be repreted in those brilliant achievements was that which was occasioned by one of Mr. Polk's own friends, (Gen. Pillow,) in exposing the regiment of a friend of his (Mr. C.'s) unnecessarily. General Scott then succeeded with consummate ability, and he pro-ceeded on his march to the city of Mexico; but when he ar-Those who had been opposed to this war had been denounced. It was not three days since he heard a friend of this Administration assail Gen. Scott for discharging the volunteers before their time had expired. Why, their time expired in June, and Gen. Scott found, in the month of April, that they could not march to the city of Mexico for want of wagens, horses, and other means of transportation. He discovered that their time would expire before they could march, and therefore he sent them home that they might escape the romito. And yet Whigs could furnish the means of carrying on the war and sent them home that they might escape the romito. And yet was struck with the remarks of the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. CLINGMAN,) that floor, and thereby preventing p-ace. No, the opposition that floor, and thereby preventing p-ace. No, the opposition with all necessary means to carry on the war—"to conquer a peace," as the phrase went; and if they had desired a peace they could have had it long and other means of transportation. He discovered that their time would expire before they could march, and therefore he would like to know by that they wanted no such thing; all they wanted was to silence the Whigs and prevent them from looking into the Whigs could furnish the means of carrying on the war and therefore he did referred to Mr. Berron's speech on the Lieutenant till expose the abuses and denounce the usurpations of the

ly ttraing them in every instance, and had stormed and ta-ken's walled city of 200,000 inhabitants, utterly annihilating he army opposed to him, and capturing in his march seven hundred pieces of cannon. And for this he had been suspended! The despatches showed what had at first been the emper of Trist toward Gen. Scott. Why had General Scot been thus suspended? To show, as it would seem, the authority of the Administration—to demonstrate the great power and dignity of Mr. President Polk and his Government, the conqueror of Mexico must be overthrown. But Mr. C. would tell gentlemen that if they imagined that the American people viewed such a proceeding with indifference, they would find themselves under a great mistake. Wherever Mr. C. had gone and wherever his information extended, there was a deep feeling of indignation at such treatment in reward for such services. And he should be greatly disappointed if the Administration had not raised in the country a storm which they would be little able to meet. They seemed to desire to make an exhibition of Gen. Scott under arrest. It reminded him of a passage in history recorded in a book which was not so often read as it deserved to be. He albook which was not so often read as it deserved to be. He alluped to the Scriptural account of the manner in which Samson was treated by his conquerors. Having got the strong
man, at whose name they trembled, into their power, they
bound him and reserved him for exhibition on State occasions.

In one instance, when brought forth before the people to
make them sport, he laid his hands on the main pillars of the edifice, and brought it down in ruins upon the lords of the Philistines. If the present Administration did not experience a like fate at the hands of the people, it would owe its escape

to other causes than its own merits.

General Scott, in one of his letters from Puebla, looking on ever, one striking difference between the cases. Though with inefficiency. But the explanation contained in the donever able to reach it : but Scott did reach Mexico, marching on steadily, though he had to fight a battle each day.

peace; a treaty which, to be sure, was not all that could have been desired, but that was no tault of his. The Administrabeen desired, but that was no lault of his. Although he tion had not trusted him with its negotiation. Although he had shown such proofs of his capacity in civil as well as po-had shown such proofs of his capacity in civil as well as po-hitical movements; although he had been sent by General Jackson (no personal friend of his) to keep the peace at cient force to enable General Taylor to hold this side of the talked of "bringing him down from the clouds, where he had attempted to soar over the heads of ordinary men." Scott treated this functionary with merited con-tempt. But (from what cause did not appear) in a few months s person wholly changed his tone, and writing home about General Scott declared him to be the wisest and greatest man in the world. Scott had fought his way to the capital of Mexieo, and having driven the opposing armies before him, and dispersed and annihilated their force, made a tre ty of peace. If it was deemed a bad treaty, General Scott was not responsible for its defects. It was his duty to effect peace by such a treaty as the Administration would sanction. For the Adnistration, it was a most lame and impotent conclusion of heir ill-conducted war. They had begun the war with the declaration that they must have not only what Mexico owed our citizens for spoliations, but indemnity also for the cost of the war itself, and security for the fulfilment of the terms of peace. But, instead of all this, this humbled Admini got only a quit-claim to Texas, (which they insisted had been ours before,) agreed to pay Mexico's debt to our citizens for spoliations, and for two worthless Provinces had stipulated sides to give her fifteen millions of dollars. A glorious conimmation, indeed! Why, we gave but fifteen millions for ouldann, which was worth twenty times the value of both put together. This was doing wonders truly, and having spent a bundred millions in the war and lost thousands of valuable lives. If Mexico, before the commencement of the valuable lives. If Mexico, before the commencement of the valuable lives. Thou may be seen to the value of the value delay the passion of the value of the value delay the passion of the value of the put together. This was doing wonders truly, after having valuable lives. If Mexico, before the commencement of the war, had offered us such a bargain Congress would not have accepted it. Much talk had been made about indemnity, but true that the minority could, under the rules, delay the passage of a bill, particularly in the Senate, by discussion. In this House they carried it through with the utmost promptexpense of surveying and selling it. The formation of a months. Such w treaty, at all, reflected very high credit on the general who responsible for it.

Mr. C. said he had occupied much more time than he at first ntended, nor should he have said so much if the gentle-nau from Alabama (Mr. Housron) had not interrupted him. forces into Canada as a preparatory measure against an insur-rection there, Wellington had insisted that they ought to be on a large scale, adding the memorable remark that "a great country like England could not have a little war." The Administration of our Government had, however, tried to have such a war; they had done their best for it, having pursued throughout a picagune system in its management, because the generals at the head of our armies happened to be Whigs! Victory having nevertheless been won, surely the Administration, if it had had any soul, would have given to these brave and able men the credit to which they had so justly entitled themselves; but instead of this there had been a studied affort to degrade them lest they should gain too much popularity. Now Mr. C. did not wish the country to prejudge the case

of Gen. Scott on such fragments of correspondence as were here sent to the House by the Executive. The correspondence had been garbled—most grossly garbled. One of Gen. Scott's letters especially had been garbled in like manner elsewhere. The papers stated that a man called Cass, in a certain public place in the United States, (he would not say where,) had read a part of this letter, but obstinately refused to read the residue. Now, who had ever seen one-half of a deposition read in a court of justice, and the residue withheld? Yet that was the liberal, the magnanim us system of the Administration.

Acrion was called for by the Department; that they desired early and immediate action by Congress. Sent at that time, and Gen. Taylor, so far as he knew, believed that there was a sufficient force left for the army to remain on the defensive, and he (Gen. Scott) thought he had a sufficient force to go forward to Vera Cruz and attack that Mr. C. denounced it in advance.

Those who had been opposed to this war had been denounce.

time would expire before they could march, and therefore he sent them home that they might escape the vomito. And yet Gen. Scott was assailed for that! In one of Gen. Scott's letters (it alluded to one written from Puebla 25th July) he complained of this failure on the part of the Administration in sending him troops and means of transportation; and he says that the first communication he received from the D-partment after, the capture of Vera Cruz contained a censure, and, after the

It would be monstrous to suppose that the intellect of our ... Mr. THOMPSON then proceeded to observe that their swas so distorted and utterly perverted as to think that in this debate was wholly unexpected by him, yet he wished this debate was wholly unexpected by him, yet he wished the correspondence there was any thing to justify the Administration in its course toward this injured soldier. The Administration seemed to think that the crime he had committed was so enormous as to render it necessary he should be tried on the spot, in the very presence of the enemy, and before the callant army he had led to victory. A quartermaster, a new colonel, and a militia officer were sent to try him. All the recessful was so that the proceedings of the court martial had been heart in the convergence of the court martial had been heart in the convergence of the court martial had been heart in the convergence of the court martial had been heart in the new colonet, and a militia officer were sent to try him. All the proceedings of the court martial had been kept in the most profound darkness. Thus, at the close of the most brilliant cappaign in the national annels, this brave and accomplished leader found himself suspended from command. In less than six months he had taken Vera Cruz with its impregnable castle; he had marched four hundred miles into the conceived, even in the heat of party zeal, more ridiculous hear of a country the most difficult by reason of its physical features, armed and prepared to resist him at every step, with a force of less than ten thousand men; with this little band he had put to route thirty thousand men of the enemy, entrenhed in positions the strongest by nature and art, skilfulto raise up the Administration against our generals and set them in array against each other? In this attempt advantage was taken of the generals themselves. While it was the Pre-sident himself who had called Gen. Scott to the head of the army, it was pretended that it had been done only to destroy im. Nothing could be more ridiculous.

The gentleman alleged that the Administration had crippled

they had not furnished him an adequate force to cap use Mon-terey, and had refused or neglected to furnish the necessary termaster General had been called upon to explain. The letter of Gen. Jesup (a man not unknown to this country, but who had won himself some reputation by deeds with which every man in the country was familiar) was before Mr. T., and he would take the liberty of reading some extracts from it. It was an interesting document, and, from the remarks of the gentleman could not have eman could not have read it. [Here an extract was read from Gen. Jesup's letter, dated

written to the Department referring to a letter from General General Scott, in one of his letters from Puebla, looking on the inadequate force with which he was about to march upon the capital, predicted that he should have a thousand of his men killed before he reached it, all whose lives might have been saved had he been furnished with the force suitable and proper for such a conquest. But with the feeble command he led, he had pushed his triumphant way in the face of the most unequal opposition, every day fighting a battle, till he entered the gates of Mexico in triumph. One is reminded of an incident of European history. After the battle of Pavia, Charles V, having his rival Francis a prisoner, asked of a French peasant who was brought before him, "how many days' journey is it to Paris?" "Twelve, sir," was the reply; "but they will be days of battle." There was, however, one striking difference between the cases. Though

factory that all just and honorable minds must admit it.

Mr. T. said he knew well how far party zeal would some said he had been told that the Duke of Wellington times drive a man who yielded himself up to its influence. But (one of the best men in the world to pronounce an opinion of the insisted that, if gentlemen would be just, they must either such a subject) had declared that with a full knowledge of the give the credit of the war and of the peace to both the army country assailed and its natural means of defence, he had not and the Government, or else deny credit to either. Why supposed there was a captain in the world who could take the make this invidious distinction? Why must be generals be city with such means; but that Scott had moved on as regulauded because they were Whigs, while the Administration larly as a general would march in time of peace, exhibiting who sent and who sustained them be condemned because they the most consummate skill and indomitable courage. Nor was this all his glory. He had besides effected a treaty of he proposed to do, viz. to hold the country on this side the Sierra Madre, and remain on the defensive, [here Mr. T. quoted the letter,] adding that it would be the policy of the enemy to cut our lines of military defences.

Now, here was the sum and substance of the instructions of

rolina intimated most broadly that the troops were withdrawn from Gen. Taylor that he might be defeated.

Mr. CLINGMAN (the floor being yielded), said he had not ntimated any such thing. He had said that they were withdrawn from General Taylor by orders of the Department, and hey undertook to supply him with other troops in their place, but neglected to do it

Mr. THOMPSON (resuming) said that reminded him of one point. As the gentleman from North Carolina was not a member of the last Coogress, he would not therefore be held responsible, but his party would be held responsible for it. It was this: why troops were not sent forward at an earlier day.

When General Scott left here it was supposed that additional troops would be sent forward.

Mr. CLINGMAN (in his seat) said it was long before that

that the bill authorizing the President to raise 50,000 volunteers had passed.
Mr. THOMPSON replied, it was very true. But he would

ever of it was worth cultivating, belonged to individuals; the residue was worth little or nothing, and would not pay the expense of surveying and selling it. The formation of a months. Such was the history of the proceedings. Who was

Mr. HALALSON (Mr. T. vielding) said he had better avail himself of this opportunity perhaps to put himself and the country right in regard to one matter. He did not remem-ber exactly the day upon which the bill providing for the additional military force passed ; he thought it was upon the 11th man from Alabama (Mr. Houverox) had not interrupted him.

The subject was open, under the motion to reconsider, and gentlemen would have full opportunity for reply. He insisted that all the credit, both of the war and the peace, was due exclusively to our able officers and the brave men they commanded; but in both the Administration had utterly fulled. When it was proposed in the British Parliament to throw done after the reference of the President's message, and on the day after that reference. It was under discussion until it pass-ed in this House and the other. The bill was prepared in an-ticipation of the reference of the President's message; and he ticipation of the reference of the President's message; and he would take occasion, as it was perhaps his duty to do, to say, in behalf of the Committee on Military Affairs, that every effort was made by them, especially by himself, as chairman of the committee, to press it to final action as soon as possible. Many motions were made by himself, as the chairman of that committee, for that purpose, and they did obtain action upon it in this House, as well as the other, as soon as the Opposition of them have it.

tion would let them have it.

Mr. THOMPSON (resuming) said if this delay, then, was Mr. THOMPSON (resuming) said if this delay, then, was occasioned by the action of Congress, apart from the responsibility of one party or the other, (for he did not care to make a party speech,) could the Administration be responsible? At the time the troops were required the Administration urged that they should be raised at the very earliest period. There was not a member of the House, not a man in the country, but knew that action, action was called for by the Department a sufficient force to go forward to Vera Cruz and attack that place; and the result showed that his calculations did not de-

Mr. THOMPSON said he supposed the gentleman had no other authority than Mr. Banron's speeches. He knew that his (Mr B.'s) view was that it was not necessary to stack that strong castle; that we could go into the interior, and that Vera Cruz would fall necessarily; that it was not necessary to make a

without one word of commendation, had been condemned for discharging on parole the prisoners taken at the latter place. He adds, that he would go on white place is tweek he would reach the city of Mexico, unless of the place as the latter place. He adds, that he would prach the city of Mexico, unless of the place as the latter place. He adds, that he would prach the city of Mexico, unless of the place as the latter place. He adds, that he would prach the city of Mexico, unless of the place as the latter place. He adds, that he would prach the city of Mexico, unless of the place as the latter place. He adds, that he would are not the same battle, and defeated them both!

Well, after the signal victory on the ever-memorable field that Gen. Scott that been sent down there on a fool's errand, with a small inferior force, to be cut up, and, if it was cut up, and array on a vigorous and as grainst the enemy less thought the the signal victory on the ever-memorable field of Buena Vista, the President of the United States and Santa Anna in their city against the same that the same battle, and defeated them both!

Well, after the signal victory on the ever-memorable field of Buena Vista, the President of the United States, and those who believed with him, again goal the work was done—that a peace had been from North Carolina band made on the Executive of the United States and Santa Anna in their city against the enemy one and the same battle, and defeated them both!

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Well, after the signal victory on the ever-memorable field of Buena Vista, the President of the United States, and those that the word was done

Scott to go upon that expedition, unless they had been convinced likewise that he could succeed in it?

The gentleman from North Carolina said there had been a disposition manifested on the part of the Administration throughout to war with Gen. Scott and Gen. Tsylor. He is (Mr. T.) said there had been no such disposition; that the whole correspondence showed the utmost kindness on their part towards these individuals; and this effort to get up an opposition between the Administration and the Generals was made for the express purpose of benefiting the party of those men who were opposed to the war, being great friends of those who had fought in an unjust cause! Why say that these Generals had gained glorious laurels for themselves and their country, when at the same time the individuals who made that declaration said that they had been fighting in an unjust and unholy cause?

This brought him to the course of the gentleman from North

The gentleman alleged that the Administration had crippled and opposed General Taylor from the very beginning; that the (Mr. T.) had not; but he ventured the assertion that not one single sentence had been stricken out but that which It was an interesting document, and, from the remarks of the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. T. was certain the gen-

New Orleans, December 5, alleging that it was all the fault of Gen. Taylor himself, who got all he asked for; if he wanted more he should have asked for more, &c.]

The gentleman from North Carolina had repeated in his speech what Gen. Jesup had heard as a report on his way to New Orleans. When that officer heard the report he had withdrawn his motion; thus inwitten to the December a forcing to a lattice from General speech with the gentleman had moved to reconsider the printing to enable him to make his speech; and, moreover, after he had finished, he had withdrawn his motion; thus indicating that he wanted his own comments to go to the coun-Taylor of the 2d July, addressed to the Adjutant General, in which he stated that he must have to rely on the country for people that there had been some injustice done—that there had been some impropriety committed by the Administration, without allowing any word of explanation to be made on the

Inese remarks ne nad made unexpectedly; but he thought he had shown there was something extraordinary in the course of the gentleman, that he should privately examine the documents, and then, fearing that they should go out to the country without his comments, should roundly, boldly declare that the Administration had no grateful feelings, but were desirous to ruin the Generals who had conducted the campaign. It was unworthy of the high and proper course which should be pursued on the floor of Congress. Let them do justice to all ; et them deal fairly, equally with all, and let the country

Mr. HASKELL said he should favor the motion of the gentleman from North Carolina to reconsider, for the purpose of having this document printed entire when it was circulated in the country. The best, the most authentic history of this war, was to be found upon the public records, and when those records were all published and sent to the country entire, then alone would this country be able to judge properly and correctly to decide upon the conduct of the Executive. He was firmly convinced from what he had seen, from what he had heard, and from what he had read in reference to the conduct of this war, that it had been characterized by a series of Exout heard, and followed. He (Mr. H.) charged the countive blunders, from the very moment the order was first given to Gen. Taylor to march to the Rio Grande up to the present; and he was firmly of the opinion that the protracted vera Cruz to the gates of Mexico. He was accountable for them no answer at the time, but had laid his hand upon Duncharacter of this campaign had grown entirely out of miscal-culation, misapprehension on the part of the Executive in re-ference to the character of the fee with whom we were con-

question-yet, strange to say, the gentleman from North Ca. The President believed, as Mr. Slidell had informed him in an inefficient force to advance on the Rio Grande, with the one of his despatches from Mexico, that the appearance simply blood that was shed at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. of a formidable force on the banks of the Rio Grande would He charged on James K. Polk the loss of so much life's blood be sufficient to intimidate the enemy to terms. The President had calculated without his host, and had found that mere brabado, intimidation, bullying, and threats, were not sufficient to awe a people into subjection who had their firesides and their homes to defend. So far from being intimidated into peace the enemy met our forces, crossed the river, and gave the subjection who had the president of the United States. He charged on James K. Polk, by his dilly-dallying course, had given time to the enemy to meet us on every battle-field from Vera Cruz to Mexico; and he calculated without his host, and had found that mere brable him to soup," that it was calculated to present Gen. Scott as small on the battle-field of Buena Vista, where Gen. Taylor was in temper, considered as a man, though not as a soldier.

And now Mr. McL. came to a despatch which enabled him to say to the House that Gen. Scott had been neither suspended nor disgraced. He alluded to a despatch written after to the enemy to meet us on every battle-field from Vera Cruz to Mexico; and he calculated without his host, and had found that mere brabled him to support the suspendence of the charged on James K. Polk the loss of so much life's blood on the battle-field of Buena Vista, where Gen. Taylor was in temper, considered as a man, though not as a soldier.

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And now Mr. McL. came to a despatch which enabled him to say to the House that it was calculated to pour them. peace the enemy met our forces, crossed the river, and gave them battle upon ground where the President had supposed our army would rest undisturbed. When the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma occurred it was then believed by the President, and the party of which he was the head, and by the great body of the people that peace would follow—that this manifestation of American valor, this proof of American this manifestation of American valor, this proof of our soldiers.

To Mexico; and he called for all the despatches and correspondence, that it might be published to the world as the only authentic record and history of the war. When these documents shall be in the hands of men they would not fail to see the little sources of irritation which had so much vexed him were nevertheless not sufficient to prevent him from asking to go to Mexico; and the called for all the despatches and correspondence, that it might be published to the world as the only authentic record and history of the war. When these documents shall be in the hands of men they would not fail to see the little sources of irritation which had so much vexed him were nevertheless not sufficient to prevent him from asking to go to Mexico; and the citle sources of irritation which had so much vexed him were nevertheless not sufficient to prevent him from asking to go to Mexico and take Gen. Taylor's command. He wrote this on the little sources of irritation which had so much vexed him were nevertheless not sufficient to prevent him from asking to go to Mexico and take Gen. Taylor's command. He wrote this on the little sources of irritation which had so much vexed him were nevertheless not sufficient to prevent him from asking to go to Mexico and take Gen. Taylor's command. He wrote this on the little sources of irritation which had so much vexed him were nevertheless not sufficient to prevent him from asking to go to the little sources of irritation which had so much vexed him were nevertheless not sufficient to prevent him from asking to go to prowess, would be sufficient to bring about a peace. But valor of our soldiers, here again the President, without that want of forecast which Before he took his se here again the President, without that want of forecast which had characterized him from the commencement of the campaign to the present moment, had most grievously miscalculated.

Thourson.) Not less than half a dozen times during his reit due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But

Taylor would have to proceed into the interior of the country, and the battle of Monterey was to be fought, he charged upon the Executive that he had totally failed to supply the General who headed his troops with transportation and the supplies necessary for the successful prosecution of the war. He (Mr. H.) was on the banks of the Rio Grande at that time. He knew that Gen. Taylor, when he marched from Camargo to H.) was on the banks of the Rio Grande at that time. He knew that Gen. Taylor, when he marched from Camargo to Monterey, if he had had sufficient transportation, could have taken with him more troops, more supplies, more munitions. He was compelled to move from Camargo in this crippled condition, and to assail Monterey with a force inadequate to the work to be performed. The battle of Monterey was a dearbought victory; one which came near not being one at all; and if Gen. Taylor had had with him more artiflery, more done after the reference of the President's message, and on the of them, and done much to conquer a peace by crippling the

power of the enemy.

He charged this partial capture, this half victory of Monterey, if he might so term it, upon the want of foresight, the want of proper wisdom on the part of the Executive, in not furnishing Gen. Taylor with the means and munitions neces-

sary to accomplish the object.

Well, after Monterey fell, after that victory was heralded upon the wings of the wind, and the exultation and joy with which it was received in the United States was manifested, the President of the United States, still further mistaking the character of the people of Mexico, was ready to reat quietly and persuade bimself into the belief that the work was accomplishpersuade himself into the belief that the work was accomplished, and that there was no further necessity for the vigorous prosecution of the war. He believed that the Mexican nation was humbled; and it was for this reason, on account of this opinion of the President of the United States, that Gen. Taylor was left at Salullo with such an inadequate force as he there commanded. He could not find it in his heart to believe that the President of the United States cherished the inhuman purpose of subjecting Gen. Taylor and his brave army to but-chery. The thought was to horrible to be conceived, much less to be harb-red and expressed. He believed the reason why Gen. Taylor was not better supplied with men, why there were not more reinforcements on his line than there were, were not more reinforcements on his line than there were grew out of the want of forecast and of prudence on the par the President; because he believed he had already conquered the enemy. Gen. Taylor's troops were withdrawn, his regu-lars were all taken from him; he was left with a handful of

This brought him to the course of the gentleman from North Carolina himself, who had been in a perfect state of feverish anxiety to get hold of this correspondence. Although it had been called for by resolution, although the document was large, the gentleman had for the last five or six days been troubling the House with attempts to suspend the rules, upon every occasion when he could possibly introduce his motion, that he might submit and have passed a resolution inquiring why it had not been sent in. As soon as it was sent in—with no portion whatever garbled, as the gentleman had looked at it. without a battle and entered the gates of Mexico before her army could have rallied, because at this particular time Santa Anna had not time to have reached Vera Cruz from Buena Vista, to have defended the castle of San Juan, or to have located himself along the route to Mexico to wait for Gen. Scott. If they could have moved from Vera Cruz they could have passed Cerro Gordo; but this Administration, by its want of

But since there were had been permitted to advance. What was his condition?

There was Mexico at that moment without an army—without means of making any, even a respectable opposition to our advance into the city of Mexico—and yet Gen. Scott was un-able to move more than fifteen miles from the field of battle. Troops and means of transportation had been promised him, but he had not got them. The term of the twelve months' volunteers was about to expire, and if the Administration had used ordinary diligence be could have taken the city of Mexico before its expiration. But the delay in supplying him with ther side.

the means to advance compelled him to stay there to recape.

These remarks he had made unexpectedly; but he thought rate and recruit his troops; the time of the twelve months'

> there. He there nearly accomplished the object in view. But it must be known that all this time—from the day he left J. as brightly in the use of the pen as the sword. lapa to his arrival in the city of Mexico-Gen. Scott was con-

Mr. THOMPSON replied, it was very true. But he would like to know of the gentleman from North Carolina if General Scott did not desire of the Administration ten thousand regulars absolutely necessary for the service.

Mr. CLINGMAN was understood to remind the gentleman had harged on the Whig party that country for it.

The battles of Palo Alto and Resaca did not bring with the protracted the training of the past any measure they had a mind to.

Mr. THOMPSON said that was very true; but it was also the measurement of the past any measure they had a mind to.

Mr. THOMPSON said that was very true; but it was also the measurement of the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca did not bring with the the minority could, under the rules, delay the past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This, too, was all right. But due to his past services. This does not be supported this companies that demands, that gentleman had charged on the Whig party was more component on a cusation from the other side of the domning the person. Nothing was more component as a cusation from the other side of the country for it.

The battles of Palo Alto and Resaca did not bring with they believed this to be an unjust war. Now, in some portions of the Whig party that they believed this to be an unjust war. Now, in some portions of the Whig party that they believed this to be an unjust war. Now, in some portions of the stitutionally begun, and so he now said. A war might be unpjustly begun, and yet justly fought. A war might be unco-stitutionally begun, and yet necessarily prosecuted. It might be unconstitutionally begun, and yet constitutionally continued. All he bad heard said by the Whig party was, that it was unnecessarily and unconstitutionally begun by the President, and yet it was necessarily and constitutionally prosecuted. He was necessarily and constitutionally prosecuted. necessarily and unconstitutionally began by the President, and yet it was necessarily and constitutionally prosecuted. He made a distinction in this way. He held that Congress was the war-making power. The President has no power to make war without consulting Congress. Well, then, this war was unconstitutionally commenced, because the President had not the constitutionally commenced, because the President had not unconstitutionally commenced, because the President had not the constitutional power to make war. The march of our army on the Rio Grande was an act of war because it was an invasion of territory about which we had proposed to treat. When Congress again come together they found the country in war. There was no time then to spend in useless discussion. In the emergency in which they were placed, they found it necessary to vote supplies of both men and money, and hence the war which was meanstitutionally begun was and hence the war which was unconstitutionally begun was

onstitutionally conducted.

He could readily imagine how a war might be unjustly commenced, and yet justly presecuted. For instance, he might use insulting language to the gentleman from Mississippi. He might endeavor to bully that gentleman and alarm him by threats. The gentleman from Mississippi might reply in a similar spirit, and might insult him (Mr. H.) in reply in a similar spirit, and might insult him (Mr. H.) in return, and ultimately strike him. He (Mr. H.) would grant that he had done wrong in threatening, bullying, and attempting to intimidate the gentleman from Mississippi, but he had been struck, and consequently he had to defend himself, and been struck, and consequently he had to defend himself, and with no more than 10,000 men. But Mr. C. had shown that though this was true, Gen. Scott had hed the promise whatever fighting he did after that, he considered was done
in self-defence, and fully justified. [Langhter.] Thus it
would be seen he made a distinction. This may not be a
just war as far as the President was concerned, for he had assumed to act for the representatives of the people, and without consulting them, and thus had involved us in a war with
Mexico. He made a wide distinction between the action of
the President and of the people. The President had done
wrong in getting us into this difficulty, but, being in, we must
make the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had got us into a diffimake the best of it. The President had done in a war with the coun make the best of it. The President had got us into a diffi-culty, and now what they had to do was to get out of it in the best way they could.

Mr. McLANE next obtained the floor, and procreded to reply to the remarks of the gentleman from North Carolina,

lars were all taken from him; he was left with a handful of men at Montery and Saltillo; and if it had not been for the indomitable courage, the unwavering determination, and all the glorious qualities that make a soldier which adorned that old man, disaster would have followed, and lamentation and wo would have followed, and lamentation and the mismanagement, what the imbecility, what the want of foreight on the part of the President of the United States had come well nigh producing—that was, disaster and ruin—the sterling qualities and glorious couracter of that old hero retieved and made glorious. He saved the country. He fought not only an eveny who were rallied and animated to desperate resistance by a leader who had been imported into the country by our Executive; but he encountered a fire in the rear; he

tration. He had told them that the Administration had committed a series of blunders from the commencement of the war in 1846 to the present time, and that it had exposed the army to disasters and its generals to reproach and consure. Against these accusations he proposed to vindicate the Administration, and he should not be found covering up the skill and courage of Gen. Taylor for the purpose of bringing Gen. Scott forward for the campaign. When this campaign was first suggested here, it was a column of attack from the head waters of the Missouri to the Pacific—from Texas to Chihuahua, and up the valley of the Rio Grande to Monterey. Then the ipvasion of the city of Mexico was not looked to. The campaign then looked to the occupation of the northern prothe invasion of the city of Mexico was not looked to. The campaign then looked to the occupation of the northern provinces of Mexico, and it had been eminently successful. But then a new era occurred. The occupation of the northern provinces was not thought to be enough. It was thought necessary to occupy the whole Gulf coast, and it was thought possible to go to the city of Mexico. Of the details of these movements the gentleman from North Carolina had sought to place the responsibility on the Administration. To shift that responsibility upon Gen. Taylor and Gen. Scott he read extracts from several despatches. From these documents he proceeded to show what number of men Gen. Taylor deemed necessary for the operation in the valley of the Rio Grande proceeded to show what number of men Gen. Taylor deemed necessary for the operation in the valley of the Rio Grande and the Gulf coast, and stated that the Government called out the number of troops that were required by its general on whose advice and recommendation it acted. The President sent a message to Congress urging the necessary action to furnish the force required, and where, then, was the responsibility? He then proceeded to examine the responsibility of those who acted with a party majority, and to show that the course pursued by the friends of the gentleman from Tennescourse pursued by the friends of the gentleman from Tennes-see (Mr. HARKELL) had the effect, whatever the design night have been, to afford aid and comfort to the enemy.

He next proceeded with his documentary quotations to show

the agency of Gen. Scott in the movement or It was Gen. Scott who took Gen. Taylor's forces He read Gen. Scott's letter to Gen. Taylor, written two days after he received his order from the War Department, in which he told Gen. Taylor that he must leave him on the de-

fensive.

Mr. McL. said he was putting to the gentleman from North that it was sent in, the gentleman continued to exhibit his feverish anxiety to know why the Administration had not sent in something more, and lo, and behold! he was against the printing; or, if it was printed, he seemed to want to have his notes and comments go out to the country as a part and parcel of the correspondence, and to consider that they were just as important as any part of it. Now he (Mr. T.) had no doubt but the people would be able to digest these reports, and that too without the speech of the honorable gentleman going along with it.

He had been struck with the gentleman's disposition this morning. On yesterday he could say nothing. But since if Gen. Sector number of troops to be detailed to aid General Scott, rehis condition? serving enough to defend the valley of the Rio Bravo. He
rmy—without bad of choice advanced beyond Monterey, after capturing that
osition to our place, and had gone with his troops into the grazing country,

and in the very face of the enemy.

When Gen. Scott wrote his letter of November 25, he knew what additional reinforcements had been asked for; he said in that letter that the President had asked for seven new regiments, and might probably soon ask for more. And then came that very significant paragraph: "We are not without the hope that Congress will add ten or twelve new regiments

to the regular establishment,"
Mr. McL. charged neither Scott nor Taylor with any want Well, Gen. Scott moved on in time from Jalapa, and he entered the valley of Mexico. He met the enemy at Contrara and Churubusco, and fought and gloriously triumphed thought it did not present him in a very favorable light. But

After some remarks, not very well heard or comprehended page which Gen. Scott went to Mexico to execute. That was omitted, and for what reason? He would here say that was mitted and for what reason? He would here say that was made on the common had pursued its miscrable, contemptication, and subsequently bit system in the prosecution of this war, then been done had been done by our officers and the sumy under their command, and the Administration, while apparently undertaking to formshall the correspondence contained and established in the theory of the system in the derivation of the war that had been done to break their command, and the Administration, while done had been done by our officers and the sumy under their command, and the Administration, while apparently undertaking to formshall the correspondence contained and established in the correspondence contained and succeeded in his mission, yet the present of the war that the sum portance. The sum of the same portance of the contraint of the sum of the sense and reflection. There was so much in this correspondent ence akin to the famous letter that contained the. "plate of soup," that it was calculated to present Gen. Scott as small

that he had not risen to make a speech, nor did he purpose to detain the House over five minutes. He had attained the object for which he had moved the reconsideration, by bringing the attention of the House to the garbled condition of the despatches it was now proposed to print.

Mr. INGE rose to order, contending that Mr. CLINGMAN, being roller over was rest set stilled to the floor. having spoken once, was not entitled to the floor.

The CHAIR said this was true, if any other gentle

wished to speak, and claimed the floor when he rose.

Mr. INGE said he claimed it.

The CHAIR replied that he should have done so in time, then. No one having claimed it when the gentleman from North Carolina rose, the floor had been assigned to him in pursuance of the uniform practice of the House.

Mr. CLINGMAN went on to say that the gentleman from

Maryland (Mr. McLank) misunderstood him. He had said that one very important document in the correspondence of Gen. Scott with the Department, in which he had laid down been paraded through the country because it was believed that